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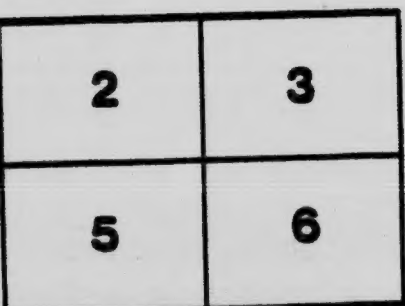
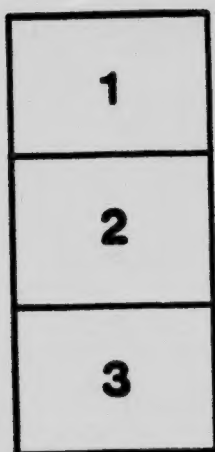
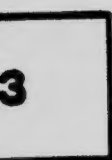
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TOBACCO CULTURE IN CANADA

The growing of tobacco in Canada is a comparatively recent industry which has considerably expanded since a duty has been placed on all foreign leaf imported into this country.

The chief tobacco-growing districts in Canada are located as follows: In southern Ontario, the counties of Essex, Kent, Elgin, and recently Norfolk, with a few scattered crops in the Niagara peninsula (counties of Haldimand, Welland and Lincoln). In Quebec the counties of Joliette, Montcalm, L'Assomption, Rouville, Berthier, Two Mountains, with a tendency to invade the county of St. Hyacinthe and part of the Eastern Townships.

Climatic conditions have specialized to a great extent the types of tobacco produced in the various districts, for instance, the Ontario counties produce plug tobacco of the White Burley type and smoking tobacco (for pipe use) of rather heavy texture (Kentucky types, large Seed Leaf, etc.), as well as some bright tobacco of the Virginia type. All require a comparatively long season found only in that part of Canada.

The northern counties of Quebec supply cigar tobacco (binders and fillers) and pipe tobacco, while the southern counties (Yamaska valley) produce a cigar leaf of a somewhat finer texture, as a rule of better size than that from the northern counties and yielding a higher percentage of binders.

The varieties of tobacco grown in the above-mentioned districts can be described as follows:—

Southern Ontario.—White Burleys, Large Connecticut, Snuff tobacco fire-cured, Bright tobacco fire-cured, also a small proportion of Zimmer Spanish and Havana Seed Leaf.

Quebec (Northern counties).—Comstock Spanish, Havana Seed Leaf, Connecticut, General Grant, Blue Pryor, Canelle, Small Havana, etc.

Quebec (Southern counties).—Comstock Spanish, Havana Seed Leaf, and Connecticut Seed Leaf.

There is an increasing demand in Canada for Ontario fire-cured tobacco of the best grade of really bright colour. However, the acreage of land adapted to the growing of that type of tobacco seems to be limited to parts of the northern shore of lake Erie. Tobacco growers desiring to specialize in the production of fire-cured tobacco in Canada must be very careful not to utilize for this purpose land too heavy in texture or too fertile, which generally gives a rank growth and yields a tobacco very hard to cure the right colour.

The production of White Burley in Canada, at present at least, seems to have reached the limit of the home consumption for that type of tobacco. It is claimed that if the quality of the leaf could be improved, more of it could be used by the Canadian

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EXHIBITION CIRCULAR No. 19

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manufacturers, therefore our attention should be devoted more to producing a higher grade of leaf than to increasing the acreage too rapidly.

As regards the cigar tobaccos of the Quebec districts, there is a good demand from the home trade, especially for binder leaf, and the demand for Quebec cigar fillers is also increasing. However, it can be said that Quebec has grown in 1919, and more especially in 1920, more tobacco than the Canadian trade can absorb annually. A certain quantity of Quebec cigar leaf could be exported to England, but the demand from that source would be limited to the comparatively small size of the domestic cigar industry in England. The British demand for cigar tobacco of both the binder and filler types, Canadian grown, may likely be rapidly satisfied, and it is better not to depend too much on the demand for cigar tobacco from the other side. In Quebec also it can be said that, as far at least as cigar tobaccos are concerned, more attention should be devoted to the improvement of the quality than to the extension of the acreage.

There is a large demand for pipe tobacco (Quebec grown) from the raw leaf trade. However, this demand is certainly more than satisfied by a crop as large as that of 1920, and as there is no outlet for that tobacco outside of Canada, it is better to consider at once what steps can be taken in order to avoid an overproduction which might reflect on the price and cause serious loss to the tobacco growers.

The Tobacco Division will furnish the tobacco growers on application all information in connection with the growing of the varieties of tobacco above referred to, such as growing seedlings, transplanting, cultivating the tobacco plant, harvesting, curing, etc.

Bulletins dealing with the various phases of tobacco culture in Canada can be obtained free on application to the Tobacco Division, Experimental Farm, Ottawa, or the Publications Branch, Department of Agriculture, Ottawa.

In special cases further information will be supplied by correspondence.

A large amount of selected tobacco seed is distributed free to the tobacco growers every winter. The samples of seed distributed are accompanied by a special note mentioning the distances at which one should plant, the suitable soils, how to top, for what purpose the leaf might be used, etc.

